

Response to Restriction Requirement
Application No. 09/976,798

Attorney Docket No: ARC 3043 R1

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Original) A method of delivering or sampling an agent through the stratum corneum, comprising:

providing a microprotrusion member having one or more stratum corneum-piercing microprotrusions;

forming one or more microslits through the stratum corneum by causing said microprotrusions to impact the stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm² of the microprotrusion member in 10 milliseconds or less; and

delivering or sampling an agent through said microslits.

Claim 2. (Original) A method of delivering or sampling an agent through the stratum corneum, comprising:

providing a microprotrusion member having one or more stratum corneum-piercing microprotrusions;

forming one or more microslits through the stratum corneum by causing said microprotrusions to impact the stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm² of the microprotrusion member in 10 milliseconds or less; and

delivering or sampling a drug through said microslits.

Claim 3. (Original) A method of delivering or sampling an agent through the stratum corneum, comprising:

providing a microprotrusion member having one or more stratum corneum-piercing microprotrusions;

forming one or more microslits through the stratum corneum by causing said microprotrusions to impact the stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm² of the microprotrusion member in 10 milliseconds or less; and

delivering or sampling a vaccine through said microslits.

Claims 4-6. (Canceled)

transdermal patch w/ microprotrusion array, resin balls

medicine patches

WO 97/48441, 48442, WO 97/48442

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Claim 7. (Original) A method of delivering or sampling a body analyte through the stratum corneum, comprising:

providing a microprotrusion member having one or more stratum corneum-piercing microprotrusions;

forming one or more microslits through the stratum corneum by causing said microprotrusions to impact the stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm² of the microprotrusion member in 10 milliseconds or less; and

delivering or sampling a body analyte through said microslits.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) A method of delivering or sampling a body analyte glucose through the stratum corneum, comprising:

providing a microprotrusion member having one or more stratum corneum-piercing microprotrusions;

forming one or more microslits through the stratum corneum by causing said microprotrusions to impact the stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm² of the microprotrusion member in 10 milliseconds or less; and

delivering or sampling glucose through said microslits.

Claim 9. (Canceled)

Claim 10. (Original) A method of delivering or sampling an agent through the stratum corneum, comprising:

providing a microprotrusion member having one or more stratum corneum-piercing microblades;

forming one or more microslits through the stratum corneum by causing said microprotrusions to impact the stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm² of the microprotrusion member in 10 milliseconds or less; and

delivering or sampling an agent through said microslits.

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Claim 11. (Currently amended) A method of delivering or sampling an agent through the stratum corneum, comprising:

providing an impact applicator;

providing a microprotrusion member having one or more stratum corneum-piercing microprotrusions;

forming one or more microslits through the stratum corneum by activating [[an]] said

impact applicator so that whereby said microprotrusions impact the stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm^2 of [[the]] said microprotrusion member in 10 milliseconds or less; and

delivering or sampling an agent through said microslits.

Claims 12-39. (Canceled)

Claim 40. (New) A method of delivering or sampling a biologically active agent through the stratum corneum, comprising:

providing a microprotrusion member having a plurality of stratum corneum-piercing

microprotrusions;

forming one or more microslits through the stratum corneum by causing said microprotrusions to impact the stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm² of the microprotrusion member in 10 milliseconds or less; and

delivering or sampling the biologically active agent through said microslits.

Claim 41. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein said agent comprises a drug.

Claim 42. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein said agent comprises a vaccine.

Claim 43. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein each of said plurality of stratum corneum-piercing microprotrusions has a length less than 500 μm .

Claim 44. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein said agent is contained in a coating disposed on at least one of said plurality of stratum corneum-piercing microprotrusions.

Claim 45. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein said microprotrusions impact said stratum corneum with a power of at least 0.05 joules per cm² of said microprotrusion member in 1 millisecond or less.

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Applicant accordingly respectfully requests examination and consideration of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments.

Respectfully submitted,
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